Setting up an Air Safety Commission

862. SHRI P. K. KUNJACHEN:
SHRI E. BALANANDAN:
SHRI YELLA SESI BHUSHANA RAO:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state;

(a) whether Government propose to set up an Air Safety Commission (A.S.C.) for efficient air traffic mechanism and to avert increasing number of air accidents;

(b) whether the suggestion for such a commission came from recommendations of exports, Parliamentary Committees and Judges of various Inquiry Committees of air accidents; and

(c) if so, by when the A.S.C. is likely to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL, AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI SHIVRAJ PATIL): (a) There is no such proposal.

(b) Court of Inquiry appointed to investigate into accident to Air India aircraft on 22-6-82 had recommended setting up of independent accident investigation agency.

(c) National Transportation Safety Board has since been constituted to look into safety aspects of air, railway and surface transport.

Shortage of Orders for Public Sector Ship Builders

863. SHRI M. A. BABY;
SHRI DIPEN GHOSH:
SHRI SUKOMAL SEN:
SHRI P. K. KUNJACHEN;

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state;

(a) whether Government have taken any steps to save the public sector- ship builders which are starving for want of orders; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) and ,(b) The Order Book Position of ship building yards is satisfactory.

Following steps are taken by the Government to review order book position and to ensure orders for ships on Public Sector Shipyards under administrative control of this Ministry:—

(i) The order book position of shipyards under administrative control of this Ministry for ocean-going sector is being reviewed every six months by a standing committee headed by Secretary (Surface (Transport) and long-term measures for ensuring adequate orders on Indian yards are recommended.

(ii) The licence for import of ships by shipping companies are being given by Ship Acquisition licensing Committee in this Ministry which is also headed by Secretary (Surface Transport). This . Committee takes into consideration indigenous shipbuilding capacity before granting permission for import of ships.

(iii) In the medium and small crafts sector, this Ministry is responsible for 'granting indigenous clearance for floating crafts which is done after considering indigenous shipbuilding capacity.

Extension of Delhi-Kanpnr Shatabdi Express to Patna

864. SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to extend Delhi-Kanpur Shatabdi express to Patna;

(b) if so, by when; and

(c) if not, what are the reasons therefor?